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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-10 EUR-12
SIG-03 MMO-01 CCO-00 SS-15 PA-01 ICAE-00 CIAE-00
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O 150237Z FEB 79 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KABUL NIACT IMMEDIATE
USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 038916 TOSEC 010011

INFORM CONSULS, ZFF4 FOR SECRETARY AND KABUL ONLY

E.O. 12065 GDS 2/14/85 (MIKLOS, JACK)

TAGS: PINS, AF

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING AND KILLING OF AMBASSADOR DUBS

1. (LOU) FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENTS IN KABUL RE-
LATING TO THE FEBRUARY 14 KIDNAPPING AND KILLING OF U.S.
AMBASSADOR TO AFGHANISTAN ADOLPH DUBS IS PROVIDED FOR
POSTS' BACKGROUND INFORMATION.

2. (LOU) AMBASSADOR DUBS WAS KIDNAPPED BY UNIDENTIFIED
TERRORISTS IN KABUL AT APPROXIMATELY 0845 HOURS KABUL TIME
FEBRUARY 14 WHILE ENROUTE FROM HIS RESIDENCE TO THE

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CHANCERY. THE AMBASSADOR'S CHAUFFEUR, WHO WAS THE ONLY

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OTHER PERSON PRESENT IN THE CAR, STOPPED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE COMMAND OF WHAT APPEARED TO BE AN ORDINARY AFGHAN POLICEMAN. FOUR ARMED MEN ENTERED THE AMBASSADOR'S CAR AND ORDERED THE CHAUFFEUR AT GUNPOINT TO DRIVE THEM TO THE KABUL HOTEL IN DOWNTOWN KABUL. THE TERRORISTS PROCEEDED WITH THE AMBASSADOR TO A ROOM IN THE HOTEL. EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND AFGHAN POLICE WENT QUICKLY TO THE SCENE.

3. (C) UNDER INSTRUCTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT, OUR EMBASSY REPEATEDLY STRESSED TO AFGHAN POLICE AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS INVOLVED OUR STRONG VIEW THAT NO ACTIONS BE UNDERTAKEN WHICH COULD JEOPARDIZE THE AMBASSADOR'S LIFE.

THIS ADVICE WAS NOT HEEDDED AND THE AFGHAN POLICE MOVED TO FORCE ENTRY TO THE ROOM WHERE AMBASSADOR DUBS WAS BEING HELD CAPTIVE. IN THE PROCESS OF DOING SO AT APPROXIMATELY 1250 HOURS KABUL TIME, AN EXCHANGE OF GUNFIRE OCCURED RESULTING IN THE FATAL WOUNDS TO THE AMBASSADOR. THE AMBASSADOR WAS RUSHED TO THE MISSION'S DISPENSARY BUT WAS PRONOUNCED DEAD BY THE REGIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER AT 1305 LOCAL TIME.

4. (C) ASKED WHY THEY MOVED SO PRECIPITOUSLY, AN AFGHAN POLICE SPOKESMAN CLAIMED THE POLICE DID NOT START THE SHOOTING AND RUSHED THE ROOM WHERE THE AMBASSADOR WAS BEING HELD ONLY AFTER HEARING A SHOT WITHIN. WE KNOW THAT CIVILIAN SOVIET ADVISERS WERE ON THE SCENE AND PARTICIPATED IN DISCUSSION WITH THE AFGHAN POLICE ABOUT THE COURSE OF ACTION TO BE FOLLOWED. ACCORDING TO KABUL RADIO REPORTS, FOUR TERRORISTS INVOLVED IN THE INCIDENT WERE KILLED.

5. (U) OUR CHARGE IN KABUL HAS ORALLY PROTESTED THE
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AFGHAN GOVERNMENT'S ACTION AND DISREGARD OF OUR ADVICE IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS. THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT HAS PUBLICLY EXPRESSED ITS DEEP REGRET, SYMPATHY AND GRIEF IN ANNOUNCING THAT THE TERRORISTS HAD SHOT DEAD AMBASSADOR DUBS. RADIO KABUL REPORTS THAT OFFICIAL CONDOLENCE MESSAGES ARE ENROUTE TO US BUT WE HAVE NOT SO FAR RECEIVED THEM.

6. (U) A PRESIDENTIAL PLANE WILL BE PROCEEDING TO KABUL WITH MEMBERS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S FAMILY AND REPRESENTATIVES

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OF THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE DEPARTMENT. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS PLANE WILL RETURN TO ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 18 AND THAT AMBASSADOR DUBS WILL BE BURIED AT ARLINGTON CEMETERY FOLLOWING A MEMORIAL SERVICE THERE AT 10 A.M. ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20. CHRISTOPHER

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